

# The New York Times

## FESTIVAL OF KVETCHING, A SUMMER TRADITION

Summing up the Lincoln Center Festival

... Which is not to say that there wasn't plenty for lovers of exotic music and theater. The festival, under the direction of Nigel Redden since 1998, was certainly "on trend," as they say in the fashion world, with its presentation of "The Blind," an a cappella opera by



"THE BLIND"

STEPHANIE BERGER

Lera Auerbach that required audience members to be blindfolded, the better to enter into the experience of the blind characters, based on a play by Maurice Maeterlinck. Similarly "immersive" productions — "Sleep No More," "Here Lies Love," "Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812" — have been invigorating the Off Broadway scene lately. "The Blind" was an adventurous, eerie and for me thoroughly engaging example of the genre, all the more pleasurable because instead of being required to wander around in search of entertainment, as at "Sleep No More," you were able to sit still, and concentrate on the layering of the voices and the plaintive tale. ...

By CHRISTOPHER ISHERWOOD

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